

In the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0020] on page 5 as follows:

[0020] A conductive mass 15 is provided over layer 14. Conductive mass 15 comprises at least one conductive material. In particular embodiments, mass 15 can comprise silicon (such as, for example, polycrystalline silicon) conductively doped with suitable n-type and/or p-type dopant. Mass 15 can comprise metals in addition to, or alternatively to, the conductively-doped silicon. In particular embodiments, mass 15 can comprise a layer of conductively-doped silicon, and a layer of metal silicide (such as, for example, tungsten silicide or titanium silicide) on the ~~conductively-doped~~ conductively-doped silicon. Additionally, mass 15 can comprise a layer of metal (such as, for example, tungsten or titanium) on the metal silicide.